

The Gallaudet airplane built by Edson F. Gallaudet. Note propeller in center of fuselage. It was called the "Gallaudet Drive."

One of Edson Gallaudet's first airplanes was built by the Gallaudet Aircraft Corporation, possibly the first airplane manufacturer in the nation. The plane featured an innovative propeller system called the "Gallaudet Drive." (Photo from Deaf Heritage.)

The Gallaudet name receives fame in another important field—aviation

The name Gallaudet has long been associated with pioneers in the field of educating deaf people. But comparatively few people know about the accomplishments of another trailblazer in the multi-talented family—Edson Gallaudet, an aviation engineer whose experiments with flying machines in the latter part of the 19th century used the same principles as those used by the Wright Brothers in their famous 1903 flight.

Where the Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet and his sons Edward—the first president of Gallaudet University—and Thomas made major inroads to improve the lives of deaf people, Edward Miner Gallaudet's second son, Edson, who was hearing, left his impression on the world through building and developing airplanes in what many people credit as the first aircraft factory in America—Gallaudet Engineering Company.

Edson Gallaudet's name has languished in relative obscurity for almost a century, but he is now receiving recognition through General Dynamics, an aircraft builder that bought Gallaudet's company in the early part of the century. General Dynamics is promoting its products through a series of advertisements, featuring the innovative work of Edson Gallaudet, on television and in such widely read publications as *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Edson Gallaudet began his career as a physics instructor at Yale University. According to the book *Deaf Heritage* by Jack Gannon, special assistant to the president at the University, Gallaudet became interested in the warping wing principle, and in 1897 he built a model kite that resembled the air-

plane that Wilbur and Orville Wright flew a few years later at Kitty Hawk, N.C.

However, Gallaudet's academic colleagues were disgruntled with his "fooling around with gimcracks," according to Gannon's book, and he was told by Yale authorities to quit "making an ass of himself and a laughingstock of the faculty."

When given the choice of giving up his experiments or resigning, Gallaudet chose the latter alternative. In 1908, he founded his aircraft factory. The business gave Gallaudet the resources to design and build seaplanes, bombers, and a monoplane with an estimated speed of 130 miles per hour that revolutionized aircraft design.

Gallaudet's business was not a financial success, however, and it was eventually purchased by a company that later became General Dynamics.

People who are interested in the legacy that Edson Gallaudet left can learn more about him through Gannon's book, which can be purchased at the Gallaudet Bookstore, and through a book written last year by retired Gallaudet faculty member and alumnus Francis Higgins, *A Pictorial Guide to Places of Historical and Artistic Interest Related to Deaf People in the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Area*. Higgins' book can be purchased from Cindi Olson, volunteer coordinator in the National Information Center on Deafness, x5606.

In addition, Gallaudet's first model aircraft, which was stored for most of the century in a Connecticut barn, is on display at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.

ADA passes Senate and House; Bush expected to approve this week

The landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, forbidding discrimination against people with physical and mental disabilities, passed the Senate in final form by a 91-6 vote July 13.

The House, voting 377-28, approved a final version of the bill the day before. President Bush is expected to sign the bill into law on July 25 or 26, and Gallaudet President I. King Jordan and his wife, Linda, will be present at the White House for the signing ceremony, according to Sue Ellis, director of congressional relations for the University.

Speaking simultaneously in voice and sign language on the Senate floor, Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), the bill's sponsor, said that the passage of the bill "sends the world a clear and unequivocal message that people with disabilities are entitled to be judged on the basis of their abilities—and not on the basis of ignorance, fear, and prejudice."

Dr. Jordan said that he was "elated that the ADA bill is about to be signed into law" by President Bush. But he added that the ADA "will not change

overnight the more than 200 years of unequal treatment that disabled citizens have endured. It will, however, provide a critical legal foundation upon which we can begin to realize the dream to which every American is entitled—a life of dignity, productivity, and quality."

The House and Senate were able to take final action on the measure after negotiators from the two bodies agreed early Thursday to drop a controversial provision in the bill that would have allowed employers to transfer workers with AIDS out of food-handling positions.

The Americans with Disabilities Act would give people with disabilities the same civil rights protections in jobs, accommodations, and services that now apply to minorities, women, and elderly people.

The bill would expand the access of disabled people to jobs, public accommodations, many retail and service establishments, and to transportation and communication systems. Part of the bill requires telephone companies to provide relay services so deaf and hard

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Nancy Shook begins the job of Kendall School's new principal

After approximately 18 months without a permanent principal, Kendall Demonstration Elementary School now has one—Nancy Shook, a former instructor in Gallaudet's Department of Education.

"I figured if the day goes right, I can defy all superstition!" Shook joked on the morning of Friday, July 13, her first day on the job.

Shook, who was principal of the Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind before moving to Washington, D.C., a year ago to get married and begin her career at Gallaudet, said that she applied for the KDES principalship because "I felt that [the school] could use my services because I have a lot to offer."

Shook feels that the job presents her with "the biggest challenge of my career," but one that she feels confident in meeting. As she begins her new position, Shook said she first plans on "getting my feet wet, meeting people, and getting a feel of the lay of the land."

Since Janice Welborn left KDES as principal, Albert Couthen, KDES' assistant principal, and, most recently, Margaret Hallau, director of Pre-College Programs' Center for Curriculum, Research, and Evaluation, have filled in as interim principals.

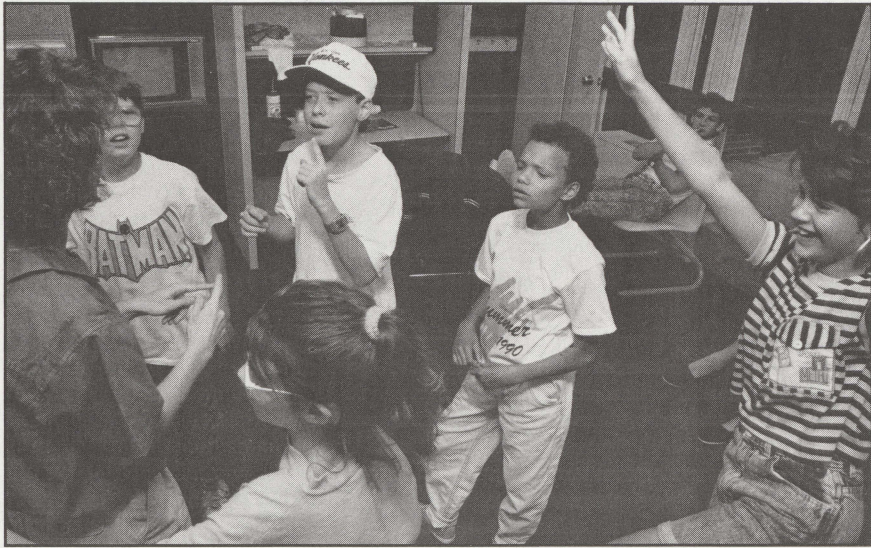
Shook was chosen as principal from a pool of 12 to 15 applicants, according to Dr. Michael Deninger, dean of

Pre-College Programs. "We're delighted to have Nancy take on the principalship," said Deninger. "I'm sure it will mean a lot for the school."

Shook received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Gallaudet in 1962 and her master's degree in education, administration, and supervision from California State University at Northridge. She has two children, Tim and Kim Garus, both of whom are Gallaudet graduates. Her husband, Wayne, is a systems analyst for AT&T.



Nancy Shook



Youngsters participate in a Family Learning Vacation (FLV) activity while their parents attend workshops. Four FLVs were held here this summer for families with deaf children to learn more about deafness. (The session on Usher's Syndrome was cancelled.)

DPN highlights at folklife festival introduce society to deaf culture

The Deaf President Now (DPN) protest of March 1988 was resurrected for two weeks at the 1990 Festival of American Folklife held on the Mall June 27-July 1 and July 4-8.

As part of the "Musics of Struggle" program for the festival, DPN student leaders Bridgetta Bourne and Jerry Covell, who now work at Gallaudet as a National Academy special projects intern and an MSSD residence education assistant, respectively, discussed DPN's use of music and entertained festival-goers with stories of the DPN struggle.

"It was a wonderful and different experience," said Bourne. "Instead of categorizing us with the disabled community, the festival gave us an opportunity to expose deaf persons to our experiences as part of a cultural week."

Barbara Riggs, who, until recently, was a sign language specialist at Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, coordinated the DPN exhibit and presentations, which took place twice daily during the festival. In addition to the student leaders, presenters included Dr. Mary Malzkahn, associate professor of government at Gallaudet, who told the crowds about DPN's place in the history of civil rights movements. Steve Ryan, who teaches sign language at

Gallaudet, entertained audiences with DPN humor.

Jacquelin Peters, program curator for Musics of Struggle, explained that during the campus rallies held for the DPN movement, students chanted "Deaf Power," "Deaf President Now," and "Zinser Out," in sign language in the same way that songs of freedom were sung during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Because of this, festival staff members decided to include DPN in the Musics of Struggle component of the festival.

Other protest movements presented at the festival included the South African movement for independence, the U.S. civil rights movement, Northern Ireland's political struggles with the English, and coal miners' fight for decent salaries and health and retirement benefits. These and many other groups chronicled their battles for festival-goers and shared the music that has helped them through their struggles.

"We had an excellent response [to the DPN presentations]," said Peters. "A lot of members of the deaf community came down to take it all in."

The festival, which was co-sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the National Park Service, focused on the U.S. Virgin Islands and Senegal in addition to its Musics of Struggle component. A number of events throughout the festival were interpreted into sign language.

DOSS reports criminal activities

The following criminal activities at Gallaudet from June 28 to July 9 were reported by the Department of Safety and Security (DOSS). Crimes such as minor vandalisms, simple assaults, and petty thefts occurring in predominantly student areas have been omitted. No suspects were identified unless otherwise noted. (DOSS did not report any crimes for the week of July 10 to 16.)

- 6/28—A tool box containing assorted tools was stolen from Washburn Arts Building.
- 7/1—A wallet was stolen from the Field House.
- 7/5—A TDD was stolen from a public area in Ely Center.
- 7/9—A lock was broken on a vehicle.

Among Ourselves

Dr. Edward Corbett, manager of conferences/program support in the College for Continuing Education, will begin a new position as superintendent of the Ohio School for the Deaf in Columbus, Ohio, in August. Corbett, Class of '63, was the first person to receive a Ph.D. from Gallaudet when he received his Ph.D. in special education administration in 1979. Over the years, Corbett was director of the National Academy from 1980-85, director of Enrollment Management from 1985-87, special assistant to the provost from 1987-88, and has been in his present position since September of 1988.

Priscilla O'Donnell is the new bookstore supervisor for the Gallaudet Bookstore. O'Donnell has been with the Gallaudet University Press since 1982, first as sales coordinator and later as business coordinator. Jeff Spielberger, who has been at the bookstore for some time, is now its order processor. New to Gallaudet is Barbara Olmert, direct marketing coordinator for the bookstore.

Dr. Gerald Buckley, who has been director of the Gallaudet University Midwestern Regional Center at Johnson County (Kansas) Community College for 10 years, will begin his new duties as chairman of the Summer Career Programs and Outreach Development Department at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf in September.

Vicki Kemp, an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Sciences, recently received her Doctorate of Arts in education from George Mason University.

Ron Reed, supervisor of television production in the Department of Television, Film, and Photography, was recently elected to a three-year term on the Board of Governors for the Washington, D.C., Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

ADA would ban discrimination

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of hearing people can use the systems.

Employers would not be permitted to discriminate against hiring and promoting workers with disabilities, as long as they can handle essential job responsibilities. Accommodations would have to be provided for workers with disabilities in performing their jobs, as long as they do not cause "undue hardship" to the employer.

Employers with 25 or more employees would have two years to make the job provisions, employers with 15 or more employees would have four years, and those with fewer than 15 would be exempt from the rules.

The law would provide that new or recently renovated buildings must be made accessible to disabled people, and that newly purchased or leased buses, subway, and commuter train cars would have to be made accessible. Railroads, such as Amtrak, would have to have at least one accessible car per train within five years.

Mary Lou Novitsky, producer of "Deaf Mosaic," recently gave presentations at Gallaudet University Alumni Association meetings in Hoboken, N.J., to the Metropolitan Chapter, and in Milwaukee, Wis., to the Wisconsin Chapter.

Dr. Martin Minter, a professor in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, was recently honored as a distinguished alumnus by his alma mater, the State University College at Cortland in Cortland, N.Y. Minter was honored for his 25 years as a Gallaudet faculty member; for his excellent work as a coach, researcher, and writer; and for his many speaking engagements as an advocate of recreation opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing people.

Classified Ads

CLASSIFIED ADS are printed free as a service to Gallaudet faculty and staff. They must be submitted in writing only to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37. Ads may be run for a maximum of two weeks, if requested and if space permits. Ads received by July 27 will appear in the Aug. 6 issue.

WANTED: Babysitter needed for 3-mo.-old deaf boy 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 27-June 14. Call Jen or Wilton, x5413 or x5310.

FOR RENT: 1 BR in house in Cheverly, Md., near Metro and D.C., full use of kitchen, W/D, seeking mature nonsmoking person. Call 772-4014 (TDD) eves.

FOR SALE: '89 Ford Ranger, forest green, AC, 5-speed, bed liner, AM/FM cassette w/equalizer, just take over payments. Call Niki, x5096.

WANTED: Nonsmoker to rent basement w/private bath and entrance in duplex townhouse in Beltsville, Md., private phone line and cable TV, kitchen and living room privileges, large deck and lawn, have 1 cat, avail. Aug., \$350/mo. plus 1/3 util. Call Barbara, 937-5281 (TDD).

WANTED: 2 ASL-using, nonsmoking professional males to share spacious BR and bath in Greenbelt, Md.; 15-min. drive to Kendall Green, near Metro bus and shopping mall; walk-in closet, 2 additional closets, private phone line, DW, W/D, microwave, pool, track, 6 tennis and 4 basketball courts; no pets allowed; \$750/mo. (\$375/each) inc. util. Call Lisa, 345-3571 (V/TDD).

WANTED: Mature Gallaudet graduate student w/experience as auto mechanic seeks work on cars; will do brake and electrical work, tune ups, etc. Call Aldon Fruge, 794-6712 (TDD).

FOR SALE: 2 videotapes, never used, \$3/each; tennis shorts, 38-40 waist, \$5; biology book, *The Unity and Diversity of Life*, never used, \$35. Write John, P.O. Box 1969.

FOR SALE: King-size waterbed w/dark wood frame and waveless mattress w/heater; chrome/glass 4-shelf case; 3-drawer dresser, light wood laminate w/brass handles. Call Mona, x3116, or 249-2675 (V/TDD) eves.

FOR SALE: 2 yellow low-back swivel chairs from Ethan Allen Coles, \$45/each. Call Maryte, x5800.

Job Openings

Some of the advertised positions may already be filled. The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).

INTAKE PROCESSOR: Experiential Programs Off Campus
AURAL REHABILITATIONIST/AUDIOLOGIST: Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

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on the
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